



Edgar Prado

Born: June 12, 1967 in Lima, Peru.

Resident: Hollywood, Fla.

Family: Liliana (wife), Edgar Jr. and Luis (sons), Patricia (daughter).

Edgar Prado's record at Keeneland

Total wins: 68

Stakes Wins (26)

- Led the nation in wins three times—in 1997 (536), 1998 (470) and 1999 (402).
- Eclipse Award-winning rider for 2006; finalist from 2002-2005.
- Ranked second nationally 2002-2006 by money won.
- Won the 2006 Kentucky Derby aboard unbeaten Barbaro.
- Has won Belmont Stakes twice—in 2002 with Sarava and in 2004 with Birdstone.
- Won his first two Breeders' Cup races in 2005—the Juvenile Fillies on Folklore and the Sprint on Silver Train and his third in 2006 on Round Pond in the Distaff.
- Won the 5,000th race of his career at Gulfstream Park on March 13, 2004, aboard Wynn Dot Comma in the Swale Stakes (G3).
- Won 2006 riding titles at Saratoga and the Belmont fall (in a tie) and spring meets.
- Won the Kentucky Oaks in 2003 with Bird Town.
- Won the Toyota Blue Grass Stakes and Overbrook Spinster in 2002.
- Won four Grade 1 races at Keeneland in 2003—the Blue Grass, the Spinster, the Shadwell Turf Mile and the Queen Elizabeth II Challenge Cup.
- Won the 2003 George Woolf Memorial Jockey Award.
- Won both the ESPY Award and the Mike Venezia Award last year.
- Elected to Jockeys' Guild Senate last year.
- Won the 2000 and 2003 NTRA All-Star Jockey Championship.
- Leading rider in Maryland in 1991-1993, 1996-1997.
- Leading rider in Peru in 1984.

After four consecutive years of being a finalist for Eclipse Award-winning jockey, Edgar Prado finally won the award for 2006. He has ranked second for five straight years in the national standings by earnings. Though his earnings were a career-best \$19,765,013, they were about \$350,000 less than those of leader Garrett Gomez.

His 248 victories included his first Kentucky Derby aboard the popular Barbaro and his third Breeders' Cup tally—the Distaff with Round Pond. He won other Grade 1 races with Silver Train, Bushfire, Wonder Lady Anne L, Dubai Escapade, Price Tag (GB), Latent Heat, Cacique (Ire) and Barbaro (Florida Derby). He also won titles at Saratoga and both Belmont meets, was elected to the Jockeys' Guild Senate and received the Mike Venezia and ESPY Awards.

His handling of Barbaro after his tragic breakdown in the Preakness last year earned him admiration and many new fans.

The previous year, he won 299 races that included his first two Breeders' Cup races—the Sprint and Juvenile Fillies. "It feels great," he told *Daily Racing Form* after winning them. "It took me a long time. I finally got it done. Hopefully [there will be] many more in the future."

He also scored Grade 1 victories aboard Horse of the Year Saint Liam, champion 3-year-old filly Smuggler, Sis City and Offlee Wild and won riding titles at Gulfstream Park, Saratoga and Belmont's spring and fall meets.

He had another outstanding year in 2004, winning 281 races and \$18,342,106, very similar to the numbers he posted in 2003 when he won 259 races and earned \$18,475,582.

In addition to winning his second Belmont in 2004—with Birdstone as they spoiled Smarty Jones' Triple Crown bid—he also won Grade 1 races with Hard Buck (Brz), Wonder Again, Society Selection, Roses in May, Pomeroy, Midas Eyes, Magistretti, Request for Parole, Sense of Style and Saint Liam. He became the 19th rider to surpass 5,000 career victories in March, and was a finalist for the Eclipse Award. He won 49 stakes at 15 tracks for 23 trainers, riding the most—eight—for Dick Dutrow.

In 2003, Prado won his first Kentucky Oaks with Bird Town and more than 40 additional stakes and ended the year as an Eclipse Award finalist. He won stakes at 16 race-tracks for 23 trainers. He teamed most often with Todd Pletcher and the six stakes they won together included the Spinaway (G1) with Ashado and the Matron on Marylebone (G1). His seven other Grade 1 victories included four at Keeneland—the Blue Grass for the second year in a row, the Spinster for the second year in a row, the Turf Mile for the second consecutive year and the QE II—as well as the Santa Anita Handicap (Milwaukee Brew), the Acorn (Bird Town) and the Haskell Invitational (Peace Rules).

Prado grew up in a large family in Peru with three sisters and eight brothers. His

father trained racehorses and two of his brothers are jockeys, including Anibal, who also came to the United States to ride.

Prado scored his first victory in Peru aboard Tatin in October of 1983 and the following year reigned as the country's leading rider. He came to the U.S. in 1986 as a contract rider for Manuel Azpurua in Florida and won his first race in the U.S. on June 1, 1986, at Calder with Single Love.

From there, he moved his tack initially to New England and then to Maryland. During the 1990s, he dominated the standings at Laurel and Pimlico, winning his first title in 1990 at the summer Pimlico meet.

In 1997, he was the nation's leading rider by number of wins, with 536, as he became only the fourth rider to win more than 500 races in a single season. In '98, he repeated as the leader by races won, with 470, and, again in '99, from a New York base, with 402 wins. He joined Chris McCarron and Russell Baze as the only riders to win more than 400 races for three consecutive years. (With more than 1,000 wins in 1997-'98, Prado followed McCarron and Kent Desormeaux as the only three riders to accomplish that feat.)

Prado won his first New York riding title at Belmont at the 2000 fall meet, the same year he swept the Brooklyn, Suburban, Whitney and Woodward Stakes on Lemon Drop Kid.

In 2001, he scored Grade 1 victories aboard Timboroa (GB), Flute, Serra Lake, Songandaprayer, Victory Ride and You.

Prado won his first classic race in 2002—the Belmont on Sarava for Ken McPeck and 30 other stakes. His mounts won 289 races and earned \$18 million, ranking him fifth and second, respectively, in the national standings.

He won nine other Grade 1 races in 2002, including the Spinster (Take Charge Lady), Shadwell Keeneland Turf Mile (Landseer [GB]) and Florida Derby and Blue Grass (Harlan's Holiday). Four of his Grade 1 scores were aboard horses trained by McPeck.

After winning the Belmont and spoiling War Emblem's Triple Crown bid, Prado told *The Blood-Horse*: "I wanted to see a Triple Crown winner. It would have been good for the business, but we've got a job to do—and that is beat each other. That is what we are paid for. We're professionals." Now he's been aboard the spoiler twice.

He won his first three stakes at Keeneland in 2001. With three more last year, all graded, he now has 26 and is tied for seventh on the list of all-time stakes-winning jockeys.

Like all riders, he'll be on the lookout for that Kentucky Derby mount who will take him to the winner's circle.